THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) During *1993-94,* 3,54,532 bouses have been constructed under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) in the country, including 2,739 houses constructed in the State of Punjab.

(b) During *1994-95, a* target erf 2,53,580 houses has been fixed under IAY for the country. The target fixed for Punjab is 4,855 houses.

(c) To achieve these targets an alloca-*tion* of Rs. 36813.42 lakhs has been slade under IAY for the country as a whole. The allocation made for Punjab is Rs. 679.71 lakhs. The first instalment of central assistance has already been released to the States and UTs for this purpose and further funds Will be released, depending upon the progress made in utilising the available funds .

Integrated Wasteland Development Project in Andhra Pradesh

500. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started the Integrated Wasteland Development Project;

(b) if so, the objectives and aims thereof;

(c) the total number of hectares of Wasteland in Andhra Pradesh which have been brought under the green cover during the last three years;

(d) whether the project has received response from the people in protecting and regenerating the forest resources; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is implementing a Centially Sponsored Scheme titled "Integrated Waterlands Development Project. Schem" since 1989-90.

(b) The objectives and aims of the scheme are as follows:

(i) Augmenting the avattataity of wood and non-wood products, specially fuelwood and fodder.

(ii) Employment generation to the needy sections of society.

(in) Demonstration of micro-planning methodology.

(iv) Extension and dissemination of proven techologies in various categories of problem lands

(v) Ensuring people's participation at all stages in the Westelands Development Programme.

(vi) Checking land degradation.

(vii) fulfilment of the broader objectives of sustainability and environmental conservation for the general good of the people.

(c) Afforesation/Tree Planning is carried out under point No. 16 of 20-Point Programme over various cate gories of land including wastelands. Under this programme an area of 1.38 lakhs hectares and distribution of 3896 lakh seedlings have been achieved in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years.

(d) and (e) The Integrated Wastelands Development Projecs Scheme envisages formulation and implementation of the projects in consultation with the local people. Therefore most of these pro jects under the scheme envisage ther formation of village level committees for the management of resources gene rated under these projects. Thus 'his Scheme envisages a high degree of peoples participation but it is difficult to quantify the extent of people's particiipatioa.